

Claims:

1. A system, comprising:
 - a service processor;
 - a system resource controlled by the service processor, wherein the system resource has a predetermined power requirement; and
 - an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) device for supplying power to the system resource in the event of input power failure, the UPS device further for supplying the service processor with information regarding the capability of the UPS device to power the system resource.
2. The system according to claim 1, further including a memory for storing the predetermined power requirement and the information regarding the capability of the UPS device, wherein the service processor uses the information regarding the capability of the UPS device to determine whether the UPS device is suitable for supplying power to the system resource in the event of input power failure.
3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the service processor initiates a warning if the UPS device is not suitable for supplying power to the system resource in the event of input power failure.
4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the information regarding the capability of the UPS device to power the system resource includes the power output capacity of the UPS device and the duration the power output capacity can reliably be supplied.
5. An uninterruptible power supply (UPS) device, comprising:
 - a processor;
 - a memory operatively connected to the processor, the memory for storing information regarding the output capability of the UPS device;
 - a source of back-up power;
 - a converter for converting the back-up power into output power for use by an

external system; and

 a communication port operatively connected to the processor;

 wherein the processor is for controlling the communication port to output the information regarding the output capability of the UPS device.

6. The UPS device according to claim 5, wherein the information regarding the output capability of the UPS device includes an identifier for the UPS device.

7. The UPS device according to claim 5, wherein the communication port is an internet connection.

8. A system, comprising:

 a service processor controlled by operating software;

 an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for supplying output AC power and for supplying UPS information comprising a UPS identifier and UPS output capability information; and

 a system resource for receiving emergency power from the UPS and UPS information and for sending the UPS information to the service processor;

 wherein the service processor receives and examines the UPS information supplied by the system resource to determine whether the UPS has a required capacity to supply emergency power to the system.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein the identifying information is an IP address.

10. The system according to claim 8, wherein the identifying information is a serial number.

11. The system according to claim 8, wherein the system resource includes redundant first and second power supplies, and wherein the service processor determines if the first and second power supplies are both connected to the UPS.

12. The system according to claim 11, wherein the service processor initiates a warning if the UPS connects to both the first and second power supplies.

13. The system according to claim 8, wherein the UPS notifies the service processor of an impending power failure, and wherein the service processor performs a controlled shutdown of the system resource in response to the notification.

14. A system, comprising:

a first uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for supplying emergency power on a first power connection and for supplying first UPS information comprising a first UPS identifier and first UPS output capability information;

a second uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for supplying emergency power on a second power connection and for supplying second UPS information comprising a second UPS identifier and second UPS output capability information;

a first system resource operatively connected to the first power connection, the first system resource having predetermined emergency power requirements;

a second system resource operatively connected to the second power connection the second system resource having predetermined emergency power requirements; and

a service processor controlled by operating software having power microcode for:

identifying the first system resource as being connected to the first power and identifies the second system resource as being connected to the second power connection,

receiving the first UPS information and the second UPS information,

determining the emergency power requirements of the first and second system resources, and

determining whether the first UPS can reliably supply emergency power to the first system resource and whether the second UPS can reliably supply emergency power to the second system resource.

15. The system according to claim 14, wherein the power microcode causes an output of the first UPS to increase.
16. The system according to claim 14, wherein the power microcode causes the an output of the first UPS to decrease.
17. The system according to claim 14, wherein the power microcode causes an output of the first UPS to turn off.
18. The system according to claim 14, wherein the power microcode causes the UPS to vary AC power such that the power AC power achieves an out-of-range condition and then achieves an in-range condition.
19. The system according to claim 14, wherein the first system resource includes redundant first and second power supplies, and wherein the service processor initiates a warning if the first and second power supplies are both connected to the first UPS.
20. The system according to claim 14, wherein the first UPS can notify the service processor of an impending power failure.